

Message Text

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13

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 JUSE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 (ISO) W

----- 045592

R 031603Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1666

UNCLAS OSLO 2201

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, NO

SUBJ: \$1.3 MILLION /COMMISSION" FOR NORWEGIAN SHIPOWNER

STEPHANSEN-SMITH

1. ALL MAJOR OSLO DAILIES REPORTED ON APRIL 29 THAT NORWEGIAN SHIP FINN J. STEPHANSEN-SMITH HAD RECEIVED IN 1971 WHILE HE WAS WITH HAGBARD WAAGE SHIPPING, A NORWEGIAN COMPANY, A \$1.3 MILLION DOLLAR "COMMISSION" (SOME PAPERS SAID "BRIBE") FROM OGDEN CORPORATION OF THE U.S. THE COMMISSION IS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN PAID IN CONNECTION WITH A CONTRACT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION FOR WAAGE AT OGDEN'S AVONDALE SHIPYARD IN THE U.S. OF TWO DRILLING RIGS. STEPHANSEN-SMITH LEFT WAAGE IN APRIL 1975.

2. THE PRESS REPORTS ARE BASED ON A PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY WAAGE ON APRIL 28 IN WHICH WAAGE CLAIMED IT HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE COMMISSION UNTIL AFTER STEPHANSEN -SMITH LEFT AAAGE AT WHICTIME HIS OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTS WERE EXAMINED. ALTHOUGH ORGEN WAS, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS RELEASE, EVASIVE WHEN WAAGE ASKED OGDEN WHETHER IT HAD PAID STEPHANSEN-SMITH A COMMISSION, STEPHANSEN-SMITH IN THE FALL OF 1975 ADMITTED TO RECEIVING \$800,000 AND, EVENTUALLY \$1.3 MILLION FROM OGDEN.

3. STANLEY FRANKEL, VICE PRESIDENT OF OGDEN, TELEPHONED EMBASSY FROM NEW YORK ON APRIL 29. HE STATED THAT HE
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HAD RECEIVED MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE WAAGE PRESS RELEASE AND

STORIES APPEARING IN NORWEGIAN NEWSPAPERS. AT HIS
REQUEST EMBASSY TRANSLATED PRESS RELEASE FOR HIM INTO
ENGLISH OVER TELEPHONE AS IT APPEARED IN "VERDENS GANG"
(A POPULAR OSLO DAILY)

4. THE OSLO CRIMINAL POLICE HAVE INSTITUTED AN INVESTIGATION
OF THE CASE.
BREMER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 03 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976OSLO02201
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760171-0624
From: OSLO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760598/aaaadftn.tel
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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Subject: \$1.3 MILLION /COMMISSION" FOR NORWEGIAN SHIPOWNER STEPHANSEN-SMITH
TAGS: BDIS, NO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006